

Patent & Trademark  
July 26 2004  
I PW  
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Dated: July 22, 2004

Signature: SSS  
(Scott S. Servilla)

Docket No.: MAROT 3.0-037 DIV  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Ralea et al.

Application No.: 10/826,545

Group Art Unit: 3644

Filed: April 16, 2004

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR  
CONTROLLING THE OPERATION OF A  
VALVE

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the enclosed form be made of record and considered with respect to the above-referenced U.S. patent application. Submission of the present Information Disclosure Statement should not be taken as an admission that the cited references are legally available prior art or that the same are pertinent or material.

In the event that any fee is due in connection with the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

Dated: July 22, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By SSS  
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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				Application Number	10/826,545
<i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Filing Date	April 16, 2004
Sheet	1	of	1	First Named Inventor	Mihai Ralea
				Art Unit	3644
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	MAROT 3.0-037 DIV

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
AA	US-6,568,656		05/2003	Wrocklage, David P.	
AB	US-6,382,251		05/2002	Hopson, Douglas F.	
AC	US-5,584,323		12/1996	Yamamuro, Sigeaki	
AD	US-5,421,358		06/1995	Jaeger, Robert A.	
AE	US-5,086,808		02/1992	Pettus, Ronald G.	
AF	US-4,804,016		02/1989	Novacek et al.	
AG	US-4,471,810		09/1984	Muchow et al.	

<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
					T <sup>6</sup>

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

<b>NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T <sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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